Amy Silva

From:

Amy Silva <asilva@crmc.ri.gov>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 9:06 AM

To:

Rich Lucia

Subject:

FW: Natural Heritage Area

Natural heritage emails for the file/agenda.

Amy Silva Supervising Environmental Scientist, CRMC (401)-783-3370p /(401)-783-2069f http://www.crmc.ri.gov

From: David Gregg [mailto:dgregg@rinhs.org]

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 4:02 PM **To:** Amy Silva <asilva@crmc.ri.gov> **Subject:** Re: Natural Heritage Area

I exchanged emails with Charles Clarkson, who directed the bird atlas and who is now the director of research at Audubon Society of RI, and he said you should consider upland sandpiper to be gone. Also, he said the only records they have for least tern breeding are all on the south coast. Grasshopper sparrow is not documented breeding at Quonset during the most recent Bird Atlas, but it was found to be breeding in the general vicinity and it is likely it is breeding at Quonset. He also said horned lark (state concern) is known to breed at only two sites, one of which is Quonset and that meadowlark (unlisted but still of conservation interest) is known to breed at only three sites in the state, one of which is at Quonset.

David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir. Rhode Island Natural History Survey 14 East Farm Rd. P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881 401-874-5800 dgregg@rinhs.org / www.rinhs.org www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory

On Thu, May 19, 2022 at 1:01 PM Amy Silva asilva@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

Thanks!

=Amy

(2)			

Amy Silva

Supervising Environmental Scientist, CRMC

(401)-783-3370p /(401)-783-2069f

http://www.crmc.ri.gov

From: David Gregg [mailto:dgregg@rinhs.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:29 PM

To: Amy Silva <a silva@crmc.ri.gov>
Subject: Re: Natural Heritage Area

Amy,

The heritage area you're looking at is associated with three different grassland or gravel nesting birds: grasshopper sparrow (state threatened), upland sandpiper (state endangered), and least tern (state threatened). The last observation date in our database for all three is pretty old, 1985 for the first two and 1996 for the last. Endangered and threatened species should be considered significant if there is current data. There are probably updated data available for them through the RI Bird Atlas project and I'll reach out to them and get back to you.

Yours,

David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir. Rhode Island Natural History Survey 14 East Farm Rd. P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881 401-874-5800 dgregg@rinhs.org / www.rinhs.org

www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory

On Mon, May 16, 2022 at 7:55 AM David Gregg dgregg@rinhs.org wrote:

Oh, oops. I'll look it up and get back to you.

David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir. Rhode Island Natural History Survey 14 East Farm Rd. P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881 401-874-5800 dgregg@rinhs.org / www.rinhs.org

www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory

On Mon, May 16, 2022 at 7:51 AM Amy Silva asilva@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

David-

I did reach out to Paul, who suggested I reach out to you for the specific species.

-Amy

Amy Silva

Supervising Environmental Scientist, CRMC

(401)-783-3370p /(401)-783-2069f

http://www.crmc.ri.gov

From: David Gregg [mailto:dgregg@rinhs.org]

Sent: Friday, May 13, 2022 6:06 PM
To: Amy Silva asilva@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Re: Natural Heritage Area

Amy,

Sorry for the delayed response, this email slipped off the bottom of my inbox and got forgotten.

Thanks for reaching out to the Rhode Island Natural History Survey about information on rare and endangered species. The Natural History Survey, in a partnership that includes URI, RIDEM, and The Nature Conservancy, maintains a database of known occurrences of species listed as rare by the state of Rhode Island. Information on federally listed species is available through the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

From its database, the Natural History Survey fulfills data requests for non-profit conservation, educational, and research purposes. RI Department of Environmental Management handles data requests for regulatory, permitting, and commercial purposes using the exact same database. In your case, being from CRMC, you should contact Paul Jordan, paul.jordan@dem.ri.gov or 222-2776 x4315.

I hope this helps. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Yours,

David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir. Rhode Island Natural History Survey 14 East Farm Rd. P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881 401-874-5800 dgregg@rinhs.org/www.rinhs.org

www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 10:07 AM Amy Silva <asilva@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

Hi-

I'm looking to get some additional information regarding the Natural Heritage Area identified for Quonset:

Can you tell me if there is a specific species or habitat associated with this polygon?



Amy Silva

Supervising Environmental Scientist, CRMC

(401)-783-3370p/(401)-783-2069f

http://www.crmc.ri.gov



Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council

Inter-Office Memorandum

Dage:

September 3, 2009

To:

Fenser:

Grover J. Fugate, Executive Director

Subject: Coastal Buffer Zones - Section 150.E.4 Guidance

Under Section 150.E.4, when staff has worked with an applicant to negotiate a buffer using Table 2a as guidance for the activity presented in an application, and the negotiation results in a buffer satisfactory to staff and the applicant, then the agreed-upon buffer becomes the standard buffer for that application. No variance needs to be addressed, since essentially the standard for that application has been met. Should the Council want more/less of a buffer, then that issue relative to the application in question will need to be taken up at a subsequent hearing.

However, under Section 150.F.4, when staff and an applicant cannot in good faith negotiate a buffer when using Table 2a as guidance, and staff has recommended in their professional opinion a reasonable buffer for that application, then the staff-recommended buffer essentially becomes the standard for that application and a situation now exists for the applicant to seek a variance to the standard buffer for that application.

Consequently, under Section 150.F.4, because staff's recommended buffer becomes the standard for applicable applications, any disagreement (ie: differing buffer width) on the part of the applicant regarding the staff buffer recommendation for that application becomes variant to the standard and therefore needs to be addressed in writing following the requirements of Section 120 Variances

E-MEMO Surff - Secring 150 E-4 Guidages size

QDC conceded 150' BUFFER ZONE APPLIES PRE-APPLICATION DISCUSSIONS.

D. Ren



From:

Spinard, Edward <espinard@quonset.com>

Sent:

Thursday, February 04, 2021 2:42 PM

To:

Dave Reis (dreis@crmc.ri.gov)

Cc:

Gina Capalbo

Subject:

Conceptual Site Plan

Dave

Sometime in the pass, we met to discuss a proposed port storage area adjacent to Narragansett Bay. We reviewed the plan and had a discussion about coastal buffers. We have advanced the plan and would like to review it with you, prior to our official submission. We can either meet you at your offices; you can come to QDC; or we can do zoom. Richard was the engineer that we also met with. Please tell me your meeting preference and when you might be available Thanks

ted



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From:

Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:45 AM

To:

'mailto:paul.jordan@dem.ri.gov' FW: Rare species information

Subject: Attachments:

Drawings for New Laydown Area

Hello Paul.

I had lost track of who to contact regarding rare species habitat after Chris retired. Could you please let me know what rare species information you may have for the area shown on the attached email? This area is shown as a Natural Heritage Area and I have been aware of grassland bird issues here in the past. The attach proposal will impact some of the maintained airport runway approach grassland surrounding the north end of the Quonset State Airport.

Thank you, Dave

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: David Gregg

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 11:06 AM

To: Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>
Subject: Re: Rare species information

Dave,

Thanks for reaching out to the Rhode Island Natural History Survey with regard to information on rare and endangered species in Rhode Island. The Natural History Survey, in a partnership that includes URI, RIDEM, and The Nature Conservancy, maintains a database of known occurrences of species listed as rare by the state of Rhode Island. Information on federally listed species is available through the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

From its database, the Natural History Survey fulfills data requests for non-profit conservation, educational, and research purposes. RI Department of Environmental Management handles data requests for regulatory, permitting, and commercial purposes using the exact same database. Contact Paul Jordan, paul.jordan@dem.ri.gov or 222-2776 x4315.

One other note relevant to this particular case, the data from the recently concluded RI Bird Atlas project has not been entered into the version of the database that we're currently using so data on the site in question will be old if it exists at all. I'll bring up the question with the Bird Atlas folks (that's Charles Clarkson and Peter Paton) and see if they can add anything about that particular site and I'll get back to you. In the meantime, CRMC should contact Paul Jordan to get whatever he has to offer.

I hope this helps. Please let me know if you have any questions. Yours, David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir.
Rhode Island Natural History Survey
1 East Farm, Building 14
P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881
401-874-5800
dgregg@rinhs.org / www.rinhs.org
www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory

On Mon, Feb 15, 2021 at 10:43 AM Dave Reis dreis@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

Hello,

The CRMC is having preliminary discussions regarding port storage expansion onto the area of maintained airport runway approach grassland surrounding the north end of the Quonset State Airport. It is my understanding that a number of rare grassland birds have been documented in this area. I would like to direct the Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) to this information and also be able to consider this information at CRMC through the review of any future development proposal for this area. Could you please direct me to the appropriate consortium member or information source? Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dave Reis

David S. Reis

Supervising Environmental Scientist

Coastal Resources Management Council

Oliver Stedman Government Center

4808 Tower Hill Road

Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370

Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From:

Jordan, Paul (DEM) <paul.jordan@dem.ri.gov>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:29 PM

To:

Dave Reis

Subject:

Re: [EXTERNAL]: FW: Rare species information

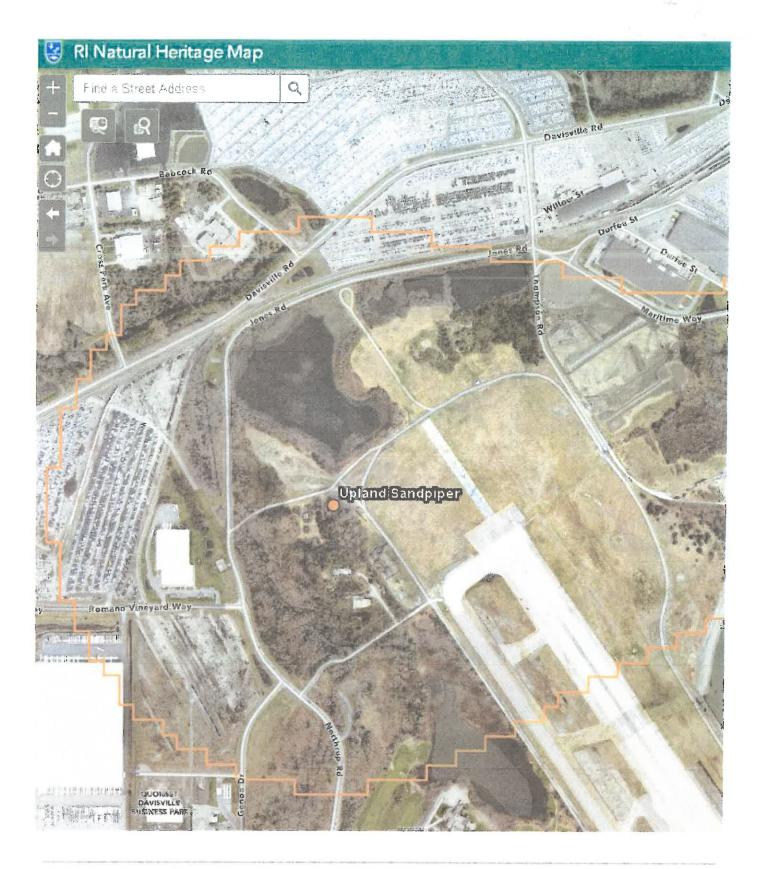
Follow Up Flag:

Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

Hi Dave,

Least Tern, State Threatened, 1996 observation date Upland Sandpiper, State Endangered, 1985 Grasshopper Sparrow, State Threatend, 1985 (same location as sandpiper)



From: Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Jordan, Paul (DEM) cpaul.jordan@dem.ri.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : FW: Rare species information

Hello Paul,

I had lost track of who to contact regarding rare species habitat after Chris retired. Could you please let me know what rare species information you may have for the area shown on the attached email? This area is shown as a Natural Heritage Area and I have been aware of grassland bird issues here in the past. The attach proposal will impact some of the maintained airport runway approach grassland surrounding the north end of the Quonset State Airport.

Thank you, Dave

David S. Reis Supervising Environmental Scientist Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: David Gregg

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 11:06 AM

To: Dave Reis < dreis@crmc.ri.gov > Subject: Re: Rare species information

Dave.

Thanks for reaching out to the Rhode Island Natural History Survey with regard to information on rare and endangered species in Rhode Island. The Natural History Survey, in a partnership that includes URI, RIDEM, and The Nature Conservancy, maintains a database of known occurrences of species listed as rare by the state of Rhode Island. Information on federally listed species is available through the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

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I hope this helps. Please let me know if you have any questions. Yours, David

David W. Gregg, Ph.D., Exec. Dir. Rhode Island Natural History Survey 1 East Farm, Building 14 P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881

401-874-5800

dgregg@rinhs.org / www.rinhs.org [rinhs.org]
www.youtube.com/user/rinaturalhistory [youtube.com]

On Mon, Feb 15, 2021 at 10:43 AM Dave Reis < dreis@crmc.ri.gov> wrote: Hello,

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Sincerely, Dave Reis

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

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[avg.com]					

From:

Horbert, Chuck (DEM) <chuck.horbert@dem.ri.gov>

Sent:

Monday, March 29, 2021 1:27 PM

To:

Dave Reis

Subject:

RE: [EXTERNAL] : RE: Quonset Laydown Expansion

OK great. Thanks, Dave!

Chuck Horbert, Deputy Administrator

Groundwater & Freshwater Wetlands Protection RIDEM Office of Water Resources (401) 222-6820, ext. 77402

New! Water Quality Certification and Stormwater Construction Permit Online Search Tool

Submit Notices for <u>Start of Construction</u> and <u>Termination</u> via email: <u>DEM.STWConstruction@dem.ri.gov</u> Visit our updated webpage: <u>dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction</u>

ONLINE PERMIT SEARCH TOOLS: View Permit Status, Historical Information and download available documents at dem.ri.gov/waterpermits

From: Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:03 PM

To: Horbert, Chuck (DEM) < chuck.horbert@dem.ri.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] : RE: Quonset Laydown Expansion

Hello Chuck,

I accepted this application today. CRMC will be doing both a coastal program and freshwater wetlands review (with SESC and stormwater).

Dave

David S. Reis Supervising Environmental Scientist Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Horbert, Chuck (DEM)

Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 8:25 AM
To: Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]: RE: Quonset Laydown Expansion

From:

Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>
Monday, March 29, 2021 11:31 AM

Sent:

'Dave Reis'

Subject:

FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area - CRMC File No. 2021-03-090

Attachments:

FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area

Copy for File.

David S. Reis

Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Dave Reis

Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 11:02 AM

To: Jeff Willis <jwillis@crmc.ri.gov>; Jim Boyd <jboyd@crmc.ri.gov>

Cc: 'rlucia' <rlucia@crmc.ri.gov>

Subject: FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area - CRMC File No. 2021-03-090

Hello Jeff and Jim.

The QDC has submitted a project to pave 21.9 acres of land to provide additional port laydown area. The project affects approximately 30 acres overall where a significant portion of the affected area is now grassland type habitat. A significant portion of the affected area (maybe 50%) appears to be maintained as grassland by the Quonset State Airport. According to State Natural Heritage Maps, two rare grassland species and one rare shoreline species exist in the area. They are:

Least Tern, State Threatened Upland Sandpiper, State Endangered Grasshopper Sparrow, State Threatened

I am primarily concerned about the grassland species (Grasshopper Sparrow - state threatened and Upland Sandpiper – state endangered) that could be affected by the loss for grassland habitat. There are also other uncommon grassland birds nesting in airport grassland area as described in the ecoRI article noted below (see link). I provided the EcoRI article and the Quonset State Airport Masterplan update which also mentioned the State threatened birds to the QDC during preliminary discussions about this project and notified them of the grassland species concern.

If least terns are still nesting on this shoreline area, the proposed shoreline berms could also be of concern during construction and for potentially creating habitat for predators.

I also notified the QDC that the berms proposed in the buffer zone are of concern and they would require a variance. The berms will be constructed with approximately 10,000 cubic yards of "excess onsite material" and landscaped with native plants. The QDC has submitted a variance request which I do not believe meets the criteria for the granting of a variance.

The Project appears to require a Category B review since it involves filling, removing and grading activities involving more that 10,000 cubic yards of material since 9,973 yards of just excess material will be generated to be placed in berms. The project also affects more than 2 acres (although this criteria is rarely applied).

From Section 1.3.1(B):

Filling, removing, or grading activities shall be reviewed at the Category B level when:

- (1) The filling or removing involves more than ten thousand (10,000) cubic yards of material;
- (2) The affected area is greater than two acres; or

In Summary, I believe the project requires a Category "B" review based on:

- a buffer variance (125 ÷/- variance to 150' standard)
- greater than 10,000 cubic yards of filling, removing and grading
- greater than 2 acres of disturbance
- Wildlife (Category "B" criteria 5 Impact on the Diversity and Abundance of Plant and Animal species – in this case State threatened and endangered species)

The project should also be put out to public notice. (The EcoRI article is also of concern should this project be undertaken without a public notice.)

Based on the public notice and review of this project extending after my retirement – I cannot review this project. I have logged in the application to Ross who needs to work with a biologist. I could provide a memo to the file on the grassland birds concern if desired.

(Please note that the airport corporation has provided a letter dated March 19, 2021 indicating the QDC project will decrease potential hazards of bird strikes but it makes claims inconsistent with grassland bird habitat and species. For instance, it claims to mowing is done to decrease visitation by wildlife when mowing is what is creating the habitat for grassland birds. Further, grassland birds are small and larger birds such as gulls, geese, large hawks, owls and turkey vultures are noted as the birds of concern for aircraft collisions in the master plan. Grassland birds are not common prey for most of these species and grassland birds occur at very low abundance thereby not being a prime attractant for certain hawks.)

On another matter, please also note that the berm landscaping plan was drawn for "Vineyard Wind" however, there is no mention of Vineyard Wind in other application materials. However, Vineyard Wind was mentioned as the primary benefactor in pre-application meetings. Should this portion of the Vineyard Wind project be subject to review under the Red Book?

Sincerely, Dave

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: <u>www.crmc.ri.gov</u>

From: Dave Reis

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:45 PM
To: 'Gina Capalbo' <gcapalbo@quonset.com>

Cc: 'Spinard, Edward' <espinard@guonset.com'>; Dan Goulet <dgoulet@crmc.ri.gov'>; Jeff Willis <iwillis@crmc.ri.gov'>

Subject: RE: Drawings for New Laydown Area

Hello Gina.

I have received a reply email from Paul Jordan at RIDEM which is attached. I have also copied the links to some other collateral data sources as well. Due to the presence of rare birds, this will be an issue of concern in my biologist's report/review and I will recommend that the project go to public notice.

Sincerely, Dave

https://www.pvdairport.com/documents/corporate/oqu-masterplan/oqu-ampu-report-chapters.pdf

https://www.ecori.org/natural-resources/2016/9/17/rhode-island-airports-last-refuge-for-some-grassland-birds

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center

4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879 Phone: 401 783-3370

Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Gina Capalbo

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:32 AM

To: Dave Reis < dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Cc: Spinard, Edward < <u>espinard@quonset.com</u>> **Subject:** Drawings for New Laydown Area

Dave,

Attached please find two pdf files. They show the work area with existing conditions and one with proposed pavement area and grading/stormwater areas.

Thanks, Gina



Gina Capalbo
Senior Staff Engineer
Quonset Development Corporation
95 Cripe Street, North Kingstown, RI
02852
401.295.0044 x207 | 401.268.9885 fax
email gcapalbo@quonset.com |
web www.quonset.com |

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From: Sent: Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov> Monday, March 29, 2021 9:13 AM

To:

'Gina Capalbo'

Cc:

'Spinard, Edward'; Dan Goulet; Jeff Willis

Subject:

RE: Drawings for New Laydown Area - CRMC File No. 2021-03-090

Hello Gina.

I am logging this application into the permitting database. The application form states the project is a 16.7 acre gravel laydown area while the plans show a mix of striped paving and gravel laydown area and the stormwater management report states the project is a 21.9 acre paved area.

Please provide clarification and reference the file number above. If necessary, please provide revised plans and supporting documents.

Sincerely, Dave

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
Phone: 401 783-3370

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

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Cc: 'Spinard, Edward' <espinard@quonset.com>; Dan Goulet <dgoulet@crmc.ri.gov>; Jeff Willis <jwillis@crmc.ri.gov>

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Sincerely, Dave https://www.ecori.org/natural-resources/2016/9/17/rhode-island-airports-last-refuge-for-some-grassland-birds

David S. Reis Supervising Environmental Scientist Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

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Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:32 AM

To: Dave Reis < dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Cc: Spinard, Edward < espinard@quonset.com > Subject: Drawings for New Laydown Area

Dave,

Attached please find two pdf files. They show the work area with existing conditions and one with proposed pavement area and grading/stormwater areas.

Thanks, Gina



Gina Capalbo

Senior Staff Engineer

Quonset Development Corporation

95 Cripe Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852

401.295.0044 x207 | 401.268.9885 fax

email gcapalbo@quonset.com

web www.quonset.com

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL BIOLOGICAL SIGN-OFF FOR FRESHWATER WETLANDS APPLICATION

TO: Grover J. Fugate

PAGE: 1 of 2

DEPT: CRMC, Executive Director

DATE: 12/13/10

FROM: David S. Reis

DEPT: CRMC BIOLOGY SECTION

SUBJ: The following application: () Category B, (XX) Category A, () Maintenance

CRMC File Number: 2010-09-093

Name: Quonset Development Corporation

Location:

Maritime Way, Quonset Business Park

Water Type/Name: Type 6, Industrial Waterfronts and Commercial Navigation Channels,

Narragansett Bay

Coastal Feature:

Tributary freshwater wetland (swamp with stream) separated from a restored coastal wetland by a bridge culvert. Additional information regarding the wetland

resources are contained in CRMC File No. 2007-06-075.

Project Description: Commercial development of Parcel 27 within the Quonset Business Park. Parcel 27 is located on Maritime Way, a new roadway approved by CRMC Assent B2007-06-075. The project consists of the construction of a 203,758 sq. ft. commercial building and associated parking and infrastructure. Stormwater management will be provided through a series of BMPs including 4 rain gardens and an infiltration basin.

REVIEW COMMENTS:

This project proposes the commercial development of a lot serviced by a recently constructed roadway approved by CRMC Assent B2007-06-075. The lot development proposed appears to be consistent with the roadway assent and with CRMC's Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast. The project further proposes stormwater management practices which are consistent with the Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual, final draft July 2010.

RECOMMENDATION:

The above described project appears represent an insignificant alteration to a Freshwater Wetland. There are no biological objections provided the stipulations recommended by CRMC Staff are adhered to:

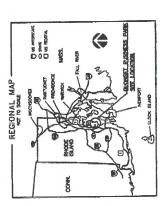
	Davo	07	
Signed:	- Have	& les	Supervising Environmental Scientist

BIOLOGIST'S REPORT CRMC FILE NO. 2010-09-093 PAGE 2 of 2

RECOMMENDED STIPULATIONS:

- 1. The fifty foot perimeter wetland shall constitute and undisturbed buffer zone for the purposes of this CRMC permit. This buffer zone shall be retained in a permanently undisturbed natural condition. No alterations are allowed without a prior written CRMC authorization.
- 2. Except as stipulated herein, the applicant shall at all times comply with the specifications contained in the submitted "Soil Erosion & Sediment Control and Stormwater Management Report, for the Quonset Development Corporation, Parcel 27....", by DiPrete Engineering, dated October 2010. Specifically, the specifications contained in Sections 6 (Sequence of Land Disturbing Activities), Section 7 (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan) and Section 8 (Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures, Permanent Stabilization and Maintenance) must be adhered to. A copy of these approved specifications must be made available to any and all future occupants if the site and to all site maintenance and grounds keeping personnel. Any failure to provide these approved specifications to the occupants/owners of the subject parcel and/or other appropriate personnel shall constitute a violation of this CRMC Assent. Please note: Permanent Buffer Zone markers must be installed prior to any work.

Signed:	 W Due	Voi	Supervisin	g Environmental	Scientis



Parcel 27

North Kingstown AP 192, Portions of Lots 2 & 5

CRMC Assent Submission RIDEM RIPDES Submission RIDEM Water Quality Submission

QUONSET BUSINESS PARK

North Kingstown, Rhode Island

August, 2010



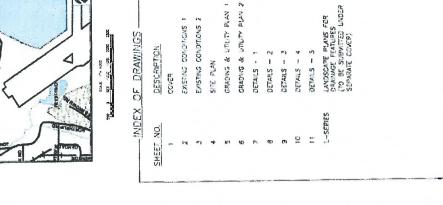


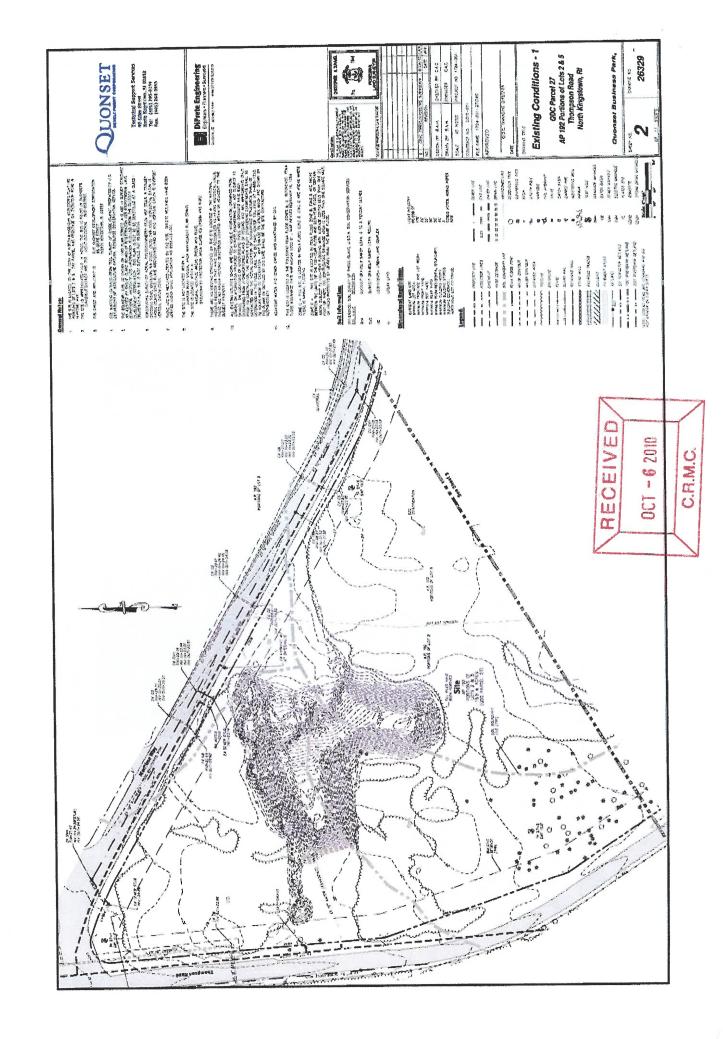
DIPrete Engineering
Engineers • Planners • Surveyors

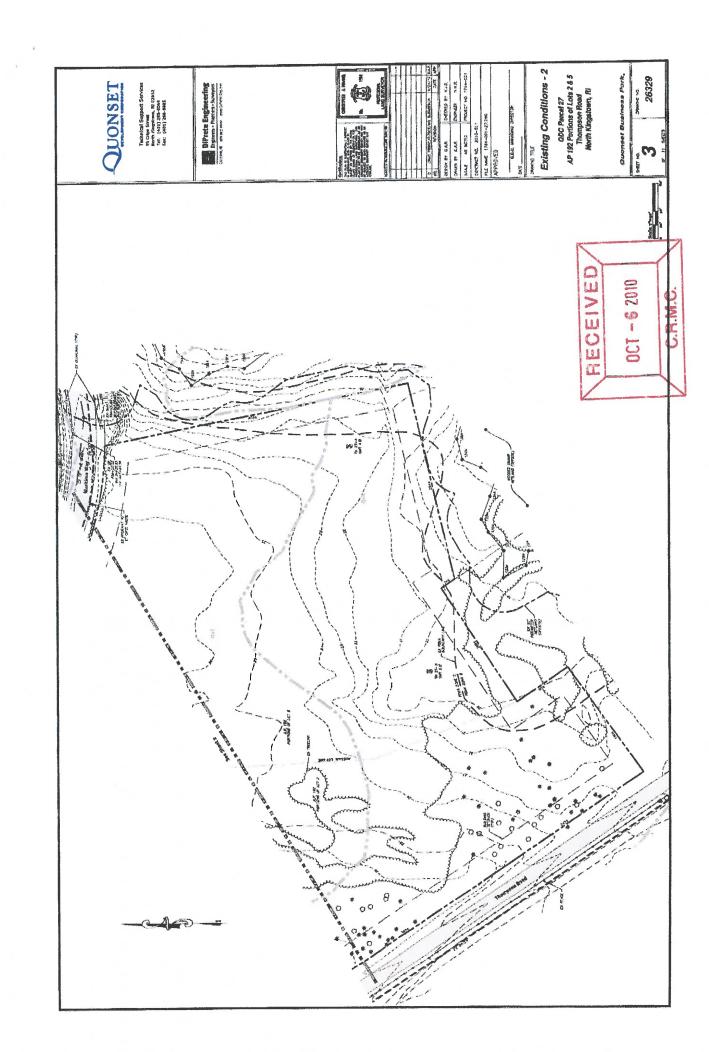
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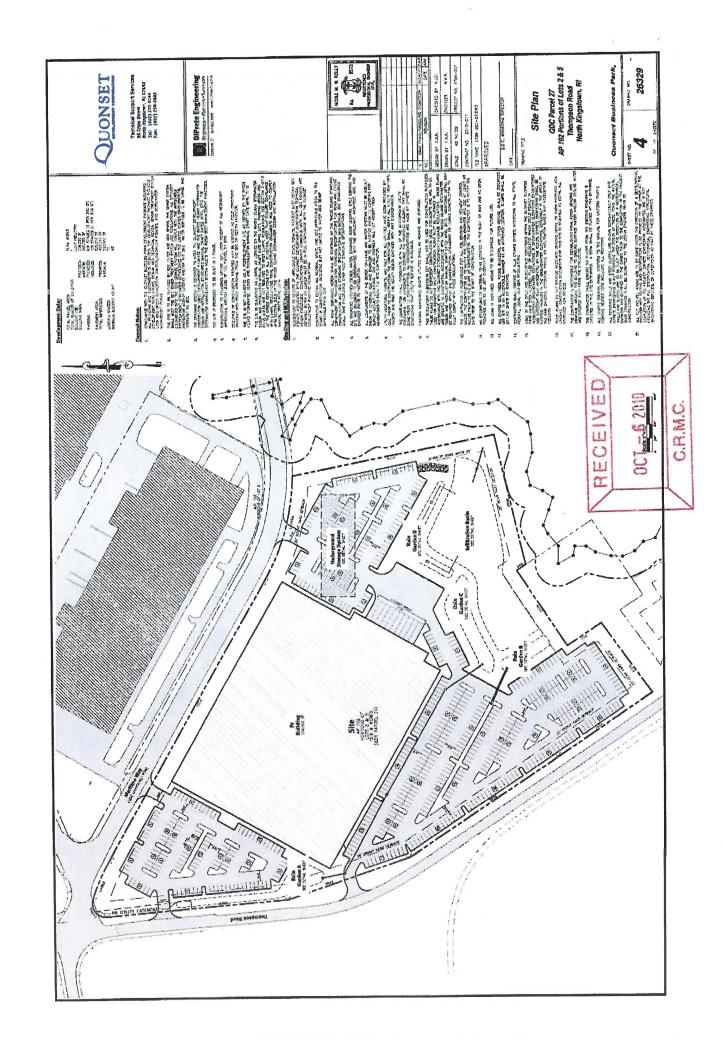
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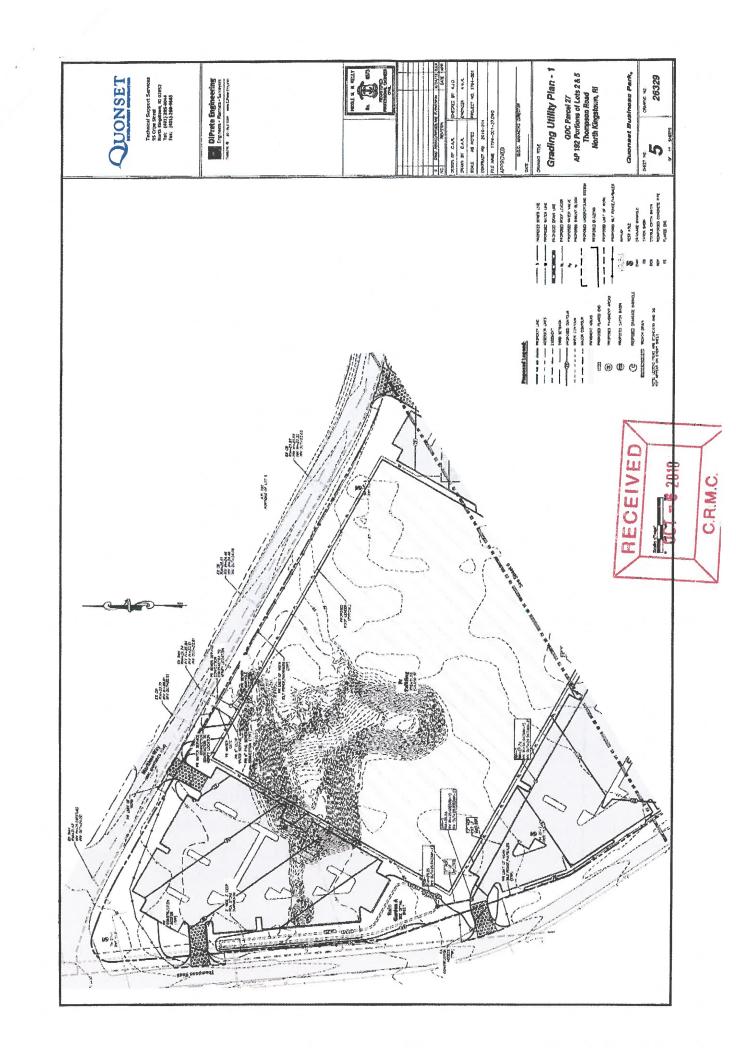
Technical Support Services 95 Cripe Street, RI 42852 North Kingsfown, RI 42852 Tel: (401) 255-0944 Fax: (401) 268-9885

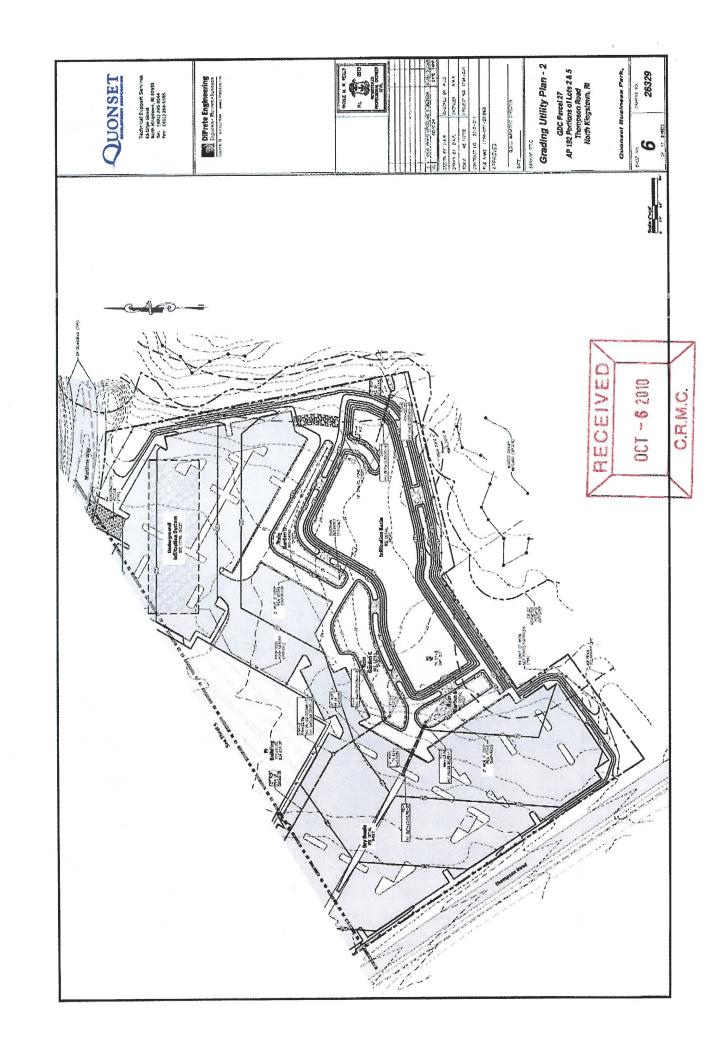


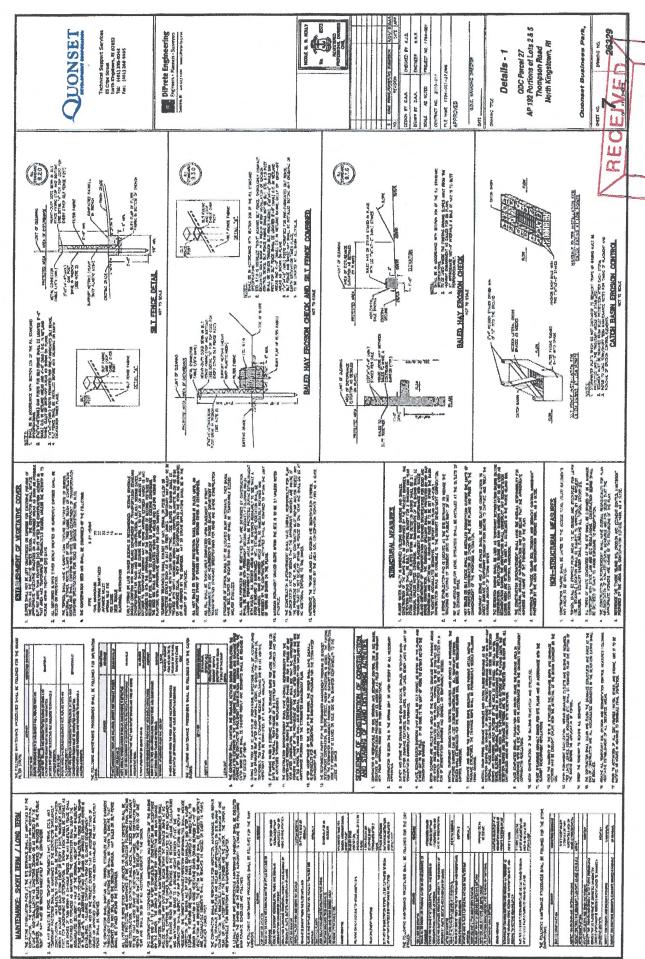




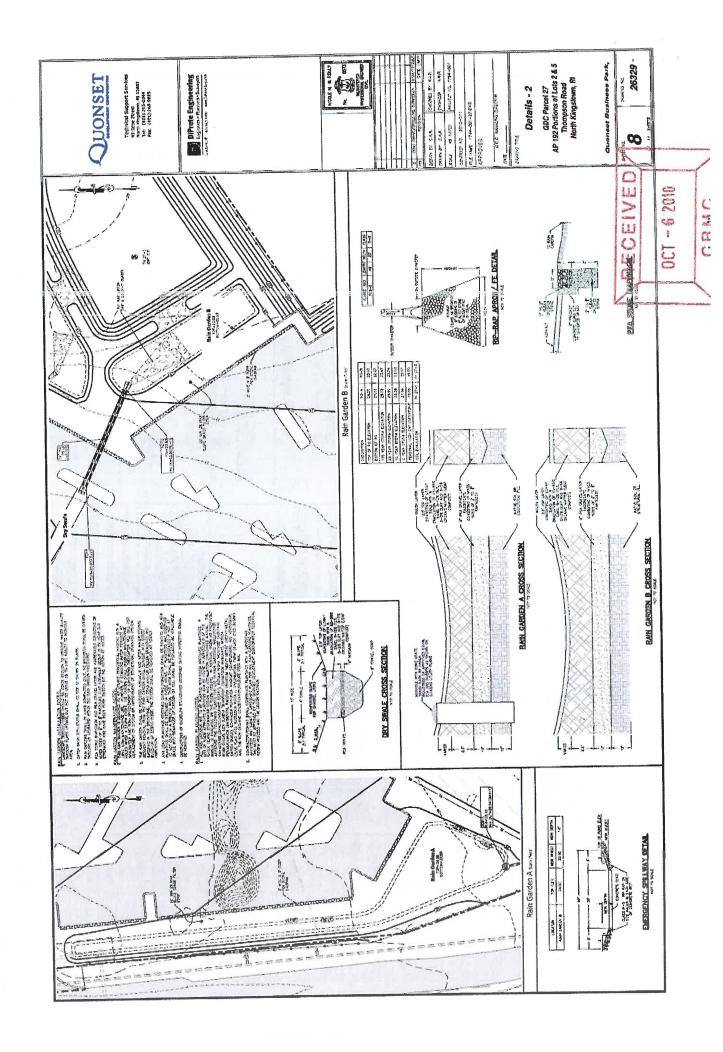


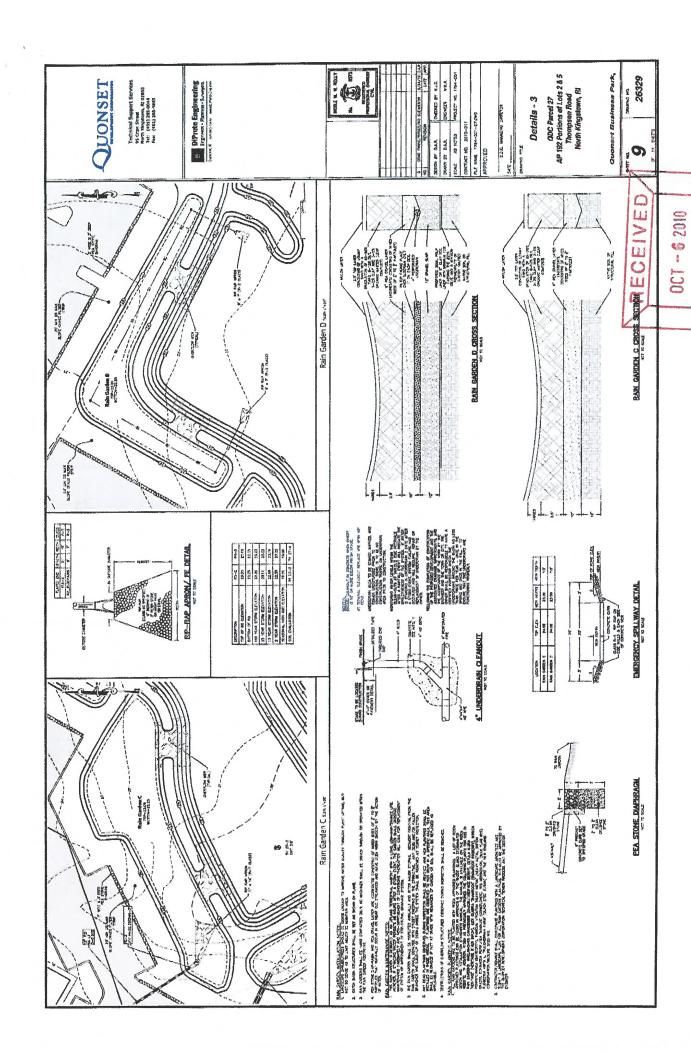




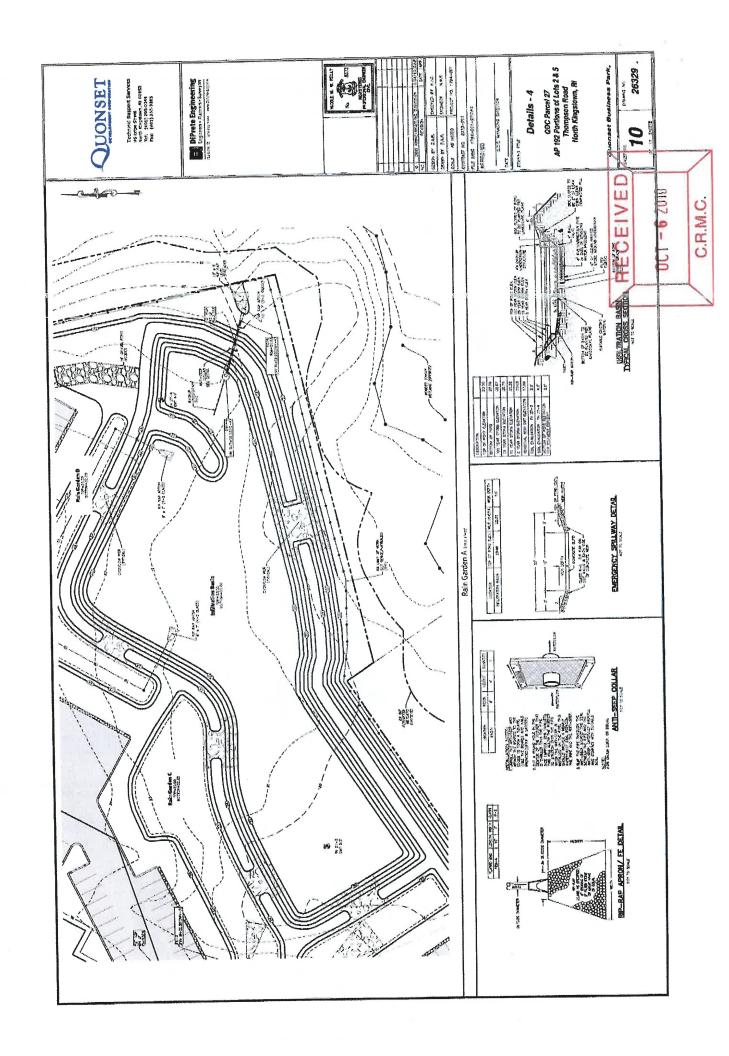


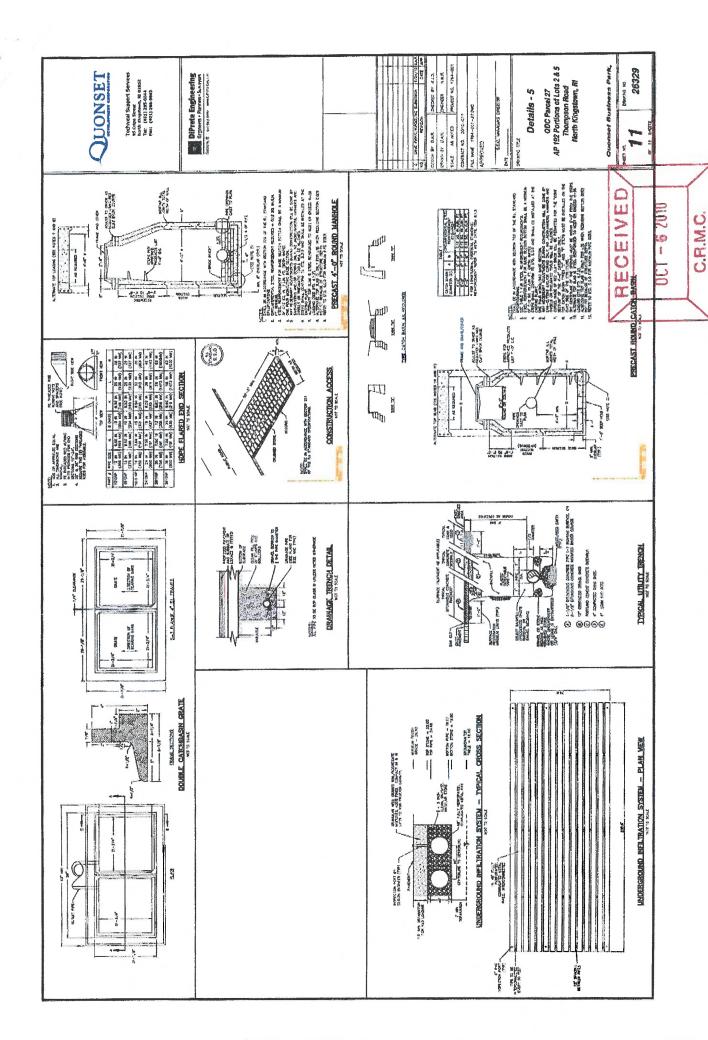
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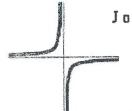




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John C. Carter & Company, Inc. DESIGN & BUILD

December 2, 2010

LANDSCAPE

Mr. David Reis

Ancheretune

RI CRMC

4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3

ENVIRORMENTAL

Wakefield, RI 02879

PERMITTING

Re:

Quonset Development Corporation

CONSTRUCTION

Planting Plans for Stormwater Treatment

MANAGEMENT

Parcel 27

SITE PEANNING

Dave,

GRADING &

BRAINAGE

Enclosed are four copies of the planting plans to accompany the stormwater treatment plans prepared and submitted by DiPrete Engineering for the above referenced parcel in the Quonset Development Park.

ERBSIDE CONTROL

These are supplemental landscape plans in support of the application # 2010-09-093 currently under review.

We look forward to your comments and please feel free to call if you have any questions or require any further information.

John C. Carter

Registered Landscape Architect

Dave Reis

From:

Dave Reis <dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Sent:

Monday, March 29, 2021 11:31 AM

To:

'Dave Reis'

Subject:

FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area - CRMC File No. 2021-03-090

Attachments:

FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area

Copy for File.

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Dave Reis

Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 11:02 AM

To: Jeff Willis <jwillis@crmc.ri.gov>; Jim Boyd <jboyd@crmc.ri.gov>

Cc: 'rlucia' <rlucia@crmc.ri.gov>

Subject: FW: Drawings for New Laydown Area - CRMC File No. 2021-03-090

Hello Jeff and Jim.

The QDC has submitted a project to pave 21.9 acres of land to provide additional port laydown area. The project affects approximately 30 acres overall where a significant portion of the affected area is now grassland type habitat. A significant portion of the affected area (maybe 50%) appears to be maintained as grassland by the Quonset State Airport. According to State Natural Heritage Maps, two rare grassland species and one rare shoreline species exist in the area. They are:

Least Tern, State Threatened Upland Sandpiper, State Endangered Grasshopper Sparrow, State Threatened

I am primarily concerned about the grassland species (Grasshopper Sparrow - state threatened and Upland Sandpiper – state endangered) that could be affected by the loss for grassland habitat. There are also other uncommon grassland birds nesting in airport grassland area as described in the ecoRI article noted below (see link). I provided the EcoRI article and the Quonset State Airport Masterplan update which also mentioned the State threatened birds to the QDC during preliminary discussions about this project and notified them of the grassland species concern.

If least terns are still nesting on this shoreline area, the proposed shoreline berms could also be of concern during construction and for potentially creating habitat for predators.

I also notified the QDC that the berms proposed in the buffer zone are of concern and they would require a variance. The berms will be constructed with approximately 10,000 cubic yards of "excess onsite material" and landscaped with native plants. The QDC has submitted a variance request which I do not believe meets the criteria for the granting of a variance.

The Project appears to require a Category B review since it involves filling, removing and grading activities involving more that 10,000 cubic yards of material since 9,973 yards of just excess material will be generated to be placed in berms. The project also affects more than 2 acres (although this criteria is rarely applied).

From Section 1.3.1(B):

Filling, removing, or grading activities shall be reviewed at the Category B level when:

- (1) The filling or removing involves more than ten thousand (10,000) cubic yards of material;
- (2) The affected area is greater than two acres; or

In Summary, I believe the project requires a Category "B" review based on:

- a buffer variance (125 +/- variance to 150' standard)
- greater than 10,000 cubic yards of filling, removing and grading
- greater than 2 acres of disturbance
- Wildlife (Category "B" criteria 5 Impact on the Diversity and Abundance of Plant and Animal species in this case State threatened and endangered species)

The project should also be put out to public notice. (The EcoRI article is also of concern should this project be undertaken without a public notice.)

Based on the public notice and review of this project extending after my retirement – I cannot review this project. I have logged in the application to Ross who needs to work with a biologist. I could provide a memo to the file on the grassland birds concern if desired.

(Please note that the airport corporation has provided a letter dated March 19, 2021 indicating the QDC project will decrease potential hazards of bird strikes but it makes claims inconsistent with grassland bird habitat and species. For instance, it claims to mowing is done to decrease visitation by wildlife when mowing is what is creating the habitat for grassland birds. Further, grassland birds are small and larger birds such as gulls, geese, large hawks, owls and turkey vultures are noted as the birds of concern for aircraft collisions in the master plan. Grassland birds are not common prey for most of these species and grassland birds occur at very low abundance thereby not being a prime attractant for certain hawks.)

On another matter, please also note that the berm landscaping plan was drawn for "Vineyard Wind" however, there is no mention of Vineyard Wind in other application materials. However, Vineyard Wind was mentioned as the primary benefactor in pre-application meetings. Should this portion of the Vineyard Wind project be subject to review under the Red Book?

Sincerely, Dave

David S. Reis Supervising Environmental Scientist Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879

Phone: 401 783-3370 Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Dave Reis

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:45 PM **To:** 'Gina Capalbo' <<u>gcapalbo@quonset.com</u>>

Cc: 'Spinard, Edward' < espinard@quonset.com >; Dan Goulet < dgoulet@crmc.ri.gov >; Jeff Willis < jwillis@crmc.ri.gov >

Subject: RE: Drawings for New Laydown Area

Hello Gina,

I have received a reply email from Paul Jordan at RIDEM which is attached. I have also copied the links to some other collateral data sources as well. Due to the presence of rare birds, this will be an issue of concern in my biologist's report/review and I will recommend that the project go to public notice.

Sincerely, Dave

https://www.pvdairport.com/documents/corporate/oqu-masterplan/oqu-ampu-report-chapters.pdf

https://www.ecori.org/natural-resources/2016/9/17/rhode-island-airports-last-refuge-for-some-grassland-birds

David S. Reis
Supervising Environmental Scientist
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center

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4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879 Phone: 401 783-3370

Web: www.crmc.ri.gov

From: Gina Capalbo

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:32 AM

To: Dave Reis < dreis@crmc.ri.gov>

Cc: Spinard, Edward <<u>espinard@quonset.com</u>> **Subject:** Drawings for New Laydown Area

Dave,

Attached please find two pdf files. They show the work area with existing conditions and one with proposed pavement area and grading/stormwater areas.

Thanks, Gina



Gina Capalbo

Senior Staff Engineer
Quonset Development Corporation
95 Cripe Street, North Kingstown, RI
02852
401.295.0044 x207 | 401.268.9885 fax

email gcapalbo@quonset.com | web www.quonset.com

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